



O'ahu Forest NWR

The ISST in cooperation with the Ko'olau Mountains Watershed Partnership and the Bishop Museum inventoried 994 acres during rare plant and weed surveys in the O'ahu Forest NWR. Of the 994 acres surveyed, a total of 0.49 acres (819 plants) were treated in total. The treatment area is calculated by adding all of the points given for each individual plant treated and multiplied by a given point area value of 2.25 square meters or 0.0006 acres. Each of the plant points represents an early invader or outlier invasive plant that has been dispersed from established areas by birds, wind, or ungulates.

The ISST in cooperation with Three Mountain Alliance Watershed Partnership began work on 2 acres of Japanese tsugi pine (*Cryptomeria japonica*) using a new method of control via gas auger with a half-inch bit, drilling into the tree, and filling the hole with herbicide. This method has proven 100 percent effective on conifers. The ISST also set up monitoring stations in the treatment area to record changes in the vegetation.

In addition, an inventory of rare plants by Bishop Museum determined that areas inventoried are over 75 percent native habitat, reiterating the importance of EDRR and monitoring for invasive plants in these areas.

Highlights:

- Early detection of three high risk invaders: Australian red cedar (*Toona ciliata*), tobacco tree (*Solanum mauritianum*), and Australian tree fern (*Cyathea cooperi*) **EDRR**
- Early detection of ungulates in inventory areas